

Message Text

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ORIGIN EPA-04

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 SCI-06 L-03 CEQ-02 CIAE-00

INR-11 NSAE-00 RSC-01 SS-20 NSC-07 DOTE-00 FEA-02

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY BONN

INFO USMISSION BERLIN

UNCLAS STATE 212321

E.O. 11652:N/A

TAGS:SENV, GW

SUBJECT:US-FRG ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS; VON LERSNER VISIT;

EPA OFFICIAL VISIT

1. SUMMARY: FRG ENVIRONMENTAL AGENCY CHIEF VON LERSNER VISITED U.S. SEPTEMBER 9-21 TO EXAMINE EPA ORGANIZATION AND FACILITIES. VISIT FRUITFUL, AND WILL ASSIST FRG IN DEVELOPING PROPOSALS FOR ENVIRONMENTAL COOPERATION UNDER US-FRG ENVIRONMENTAL AGREEMENT. EPA ASSOCIATE ADMINISTRATOR GREEN PLANS CALLS ON FRG ENVIRONMENTAL OFFICIALS NOVEMBER 5 AND 6.

2. HEINRICH VON LERSNER, PRESIDENT OF THE FEDERAL ENVIRONMENTAL AGENCY (FEA) VISITED U.S. SEPTEMBER 9-21, ACCOMPANIED BY PROF. BROCKE OF FEA AIR POLLUTION SECTION. VISIT APPARENTLY HIGHLY SUCCESSFUL FOR VON LERSNER, WHO OFTEN CHARACTERIZED HIMSELF AS "JUST A LAWYER" TRYING TO

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LEARN HOW TO ORGANIZE AND MANAGE AN ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION ORGANIZATION. DISCUSSIONS CENTERED ON RATIONALE FOR EXISTING EPA ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE, MISTAKES MADE AND LESSONS LEARNED, MANPOWER, AND BUDGETS. LINES OF AUTHORITY AND RELATIONS BETWEEN HEADQUARTERS AND FIELD COMPONENTS INTERESTED HIM. HE VISITED EPA'S NATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL RESEARCH CENTERS AT RESEARCH TRIANGLE PARK, NORTH CAROLINA; CORVALLIS, OREGON; AND CINCINNATI. ALSO VISITED EPA REGIONAL HEADQUARTERS IN

ATLANTA AND CHICAGO TO STUDY FUNCTION OF REGIONAL ADMINISTRATORS AND STAFFS IN IMPLEMENTING ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION PROGRAMS. AT EPA HEADQUARTERS HE MET WITH ADMINISTRATOR TRAIN AND SENIOR OFFICIALS OF ALL MAJOR EPA COMPONENTS. HE WAS ALSO GUEST AT LUNCHEON AT WHICH EPA ADMINISTRATOR TRAIN AND FEA ADMINISTRATOR SAWHILL SPOKE ON ISSUES OF ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENT. COPY OF DETAILED PROGRAM POUCHED TO BONN AND BERLIN.

3. THERE WAS NO CONCRETE DISCUSSION OF TOPICS FOR COOPERATION UNDER THE US-FRG ENVIRONMENTAL AGREEMENT, AS VON LERSNER PREFERRED FIRST TO CONSULT WITH INTERIOR MINISTRY'S MINISTERIALDIREKTOR JOACHIM BERG. HE SAID THAT THE REPORT ON HIS TRIP WOULD BE ONE OF THE ITEMS BERG WOULD TAKE INTO CONSIDERATION IN FORMULATING FRG PROPOSALS FOR COOPERATION. VON LERSNER HOPED FRG COULD PROVIDE EPA WITH PROPOSALS FOR POSSIBLE COOPERATION IN ABOUT ONE MONTH. EPA BELIEVES THAT SCHMIDT-BLEEK "CHECKLIST" DEVELOPED DURING JUNE DISCUSSIONS WITH EPA PROGRAM OFFICES WILL PROBABLY INFLUENCE GERMAN THINKING.

4. EPA ASSOCIATE ADMINISTRATOR FITZHUGH GREEN WILL ATTEND NATO/CCMS MEETING ON LPPSD IN DUSSELDORF BEGINNING NOVEMBER FOURTH. GREEN WOULD LIKE TO CALL ON BERG IN BONN AND VON LERSNER IN BERLIN NOVEMBER 5 AND 6. REQUEST EMBASSY INFORMALLY SOUND INTERIOR MINISTRY TO SEE IF THIS WOULD BE ACCEPTABLE. IF RATIFICATION OF MAY 1974 US-FRG ENVIRONMENTAL AGREEMENT COMPLETED BY THEN, MEETINGS COULD INCLUDE DISCUSSION OF BILATERAL PROJECTS. WOULD APPRECIATE EMBASSY'S ASSESSMENT OF STATUS OF RATIFICATION OF AGREEMENT, AND ESTIMATE AS TO WHEN UNCLASSIFIED

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PROCESS MIGHT BE COMPLETED. KISSINGER

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NNN

*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a

*** Current Classification *** UNCLASSIFIED

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